

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1- 15 remain unchanged. Claims 16-28 were previously withdrawn, as being drawn to a non-elected invention. The election was made without traverse.

The Examiner rejected independent claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Song et al (US Patent Application Publication U.S. 2002/0047045, in view of Fox et al (US 5, 943,624). The Examiner argued that “Song teaches a wireless mobile device adapted to access a wireless network comprising a subscriber identification module (SIM) card slot (Figure 4, Page 1, [0008] and a contactless smart card reader/writer module electrically connected to said wireless mobile phone via said SIM card slot (Page 1, [0009] and page 2, [0027]).

Applicant respectfully disagrees with the Examiner’s interpretation of the Song et al system. Referring to FIG. 1, FIG. 4 and page 2, [0027] of Song et al, “the VCC/GND pins of the expansion slot are connected to the voltage transfer unit of the card reader”. However, the “expansion slot” of Song et al is different from a SIM slot i.e., a slot in the mobile phone designed specifically for receiving a SIM card. According to Song et al, “the internal expansion slot is originally designed for a memory unit” (page 2, [0027]). Nowhere, in the entire specification of Song et al is the expansion slot defined as being a SIM slot. On the contrary, the present invention claims a mobile phone having a contactless card reader electrically connected to it via a SIM card slot, i.e., a slot in the mobile phone that is used for receiving a SIM card.

We agree with the Examiner that Song et al also fails to explicitly teach a contactless card reader adapted to receive information from a contactless smart card residing outside of the mobile phone and transmit this information via the phone’s wireless network. Accordingly, it is believed that the present invention is patentably different from Song et al.

The Examiner further argued that Fox et al teaches a contactless card reader adapted to receive information from a contactless smart card residing outside of the mobile phone and transmit this information via the phone's wireless network (Column 2 lines 18-21, 26-29, 53-63).

Applicant respectfully disagrees with the Examiner's interpretation of Fox et al. Referring to column 2, lines 10-25, and FIG. 2, Fox et al, describes a system that integrates a contactless smart card in the mobile device 10. On the contrary, the present invention integrates a contactless smart card reader in the mobile device. Accordingly, it is believed that the present invention is also patentably different from Fox et al.

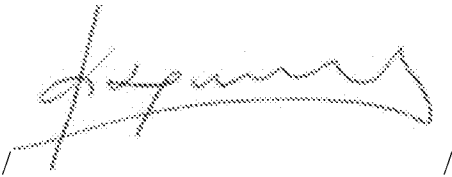
Based on the above mentioned differences between Song et al and the present invention, and between Song et al and the present invention, it is believed that claim 1 is patentably distinguishable from Song et al alone or in combination with Fox et al and the 103 rejection of claim 1 is overcome.

Claims 2-15 depend directly or indirectly upon claim 1 and since claims 1 is patentably distinguishable from the cited prior art they should also be distinguishable from the cited prior art either alone or in combination with any other prior art.

In view of the above, it is submitted that claims 1-15 are in condition for allowance. Reconsideration of the claims rejection is requested and allowance of all claims at an early date is solicited.

If this response is found to be incomplete, or if a telephone conference would otherwise be helpful, please call the undersigned at 617-558-5389

Respectfully submitted,



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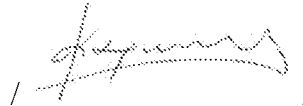
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